

SLERPETH.

Text: Lazarus Slerpeth. (St. John 11:11.)

Howbeit Jesus spake of his death. (St. John 11:13.)

Then said Jesus unto them plainly Lazarus is dead. (St. John 11:14.)

When we once learn, that there is a difference between the word sleep and death. Then the dark unseen future, of the living soul of man, will banish away. And the true light of their existence after death, will shine forth as the noon-day Sun, and put up the benighted mind of man. And they will be able to see as God intended they should. We have promised in a past article to say more on this subject. For the reason that there is so many different opinions on this point. Some say the spirit hover over the grave, until the resurrection day. Others say the soul remain unconscious, from death until the resurrection day. And many other beliefs and diversity of opinions. But among them all there can be but one lot, for each of the two nations, (the Jew and the Gentile.) And these two nations in different periods of time have filled different positions, as we will show as we advance on our subject. And for this purpose and reason, we shall take up the oldest in the natural life first, that is the created man who were created on the sixth day. Please read.

* And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him: male and female created he them. Gen. 1:26-27.

Here is the progenitor of the Gentile race. And the first gift they received was a blessing. The next was a command that God gave. Please read.

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. Gen. 1:28.

The next thing was a dominion and a privilege of access to every thing on all the earth. Please read.

* And God said, Behold I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat; and it was so. Gen. 1:29-30.

Here is the earthy man, a man for the earth alone. As God said that He set the world in their heart. As David said they at death "went down to silence."

This is the first attitude of the Gentiles. This people had no living soul, to live after death of the body, until Christ rose over death and give them that soul, (for in other words, salvation,) up till this time, they were dead, here is where Pastor Russell, and others get their scripture, that "the dead know nothing," etc. But after Christ rose from the dead, then all the dead lived again. As Christ said,

Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they that hear shall live. John 5:25.

Those are the characters, who Isaiah spoke of in this manner. They dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead. Isa. 26:19.

These people was dead and in their grave until the dead body of Christ arose from the dead, and then after this they lived again. This is two attitudes we find the Gentiles in. And the third and fourth position is after they had risen from the dead and came into the judgement hall, before the Judge of the quick and the dead. And the Judge examines them, and the judgement of the Judge is pronounced upon them; they either go away into everlasting life, or else they go away into everlasting torment.

This places them in the fourth position,

From these four different attitudes, the Catholic church takes three positions for the human family, as the all coming from one man—This life—A perogative—and a heaven. Pastor Russell takes his position of this life, and then the dead until the resurrection day when all will be resurrected.

The reader will see why those parties take those positions, and make their subjects believe a lie and be damned. As the scripture sayeth. But this is not all, we shall now take up the different positions of the Israelites, the descendants of the formed man, as it reads—

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Gen. 2:7-8.

Here is the first position of the formed man—God places him in a garden, commands him to dress the garden and keep it, commanded him to not eat of a certain tree, and said to him, that if he did that he should die. As it reads,

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Gen. 2:17.

Here is set forth the attitude of this man before he eats of

the forbidden fruit. Then after he eats of the forbidden fruit he lives in the second attitude, under condemnation until Christ comes into this world of ours, to die on the cross, to take away the curse.

The third position is, that while Christ was here on earth He blinded their eyes by parables, so that they should not see Him as the Christ, this he said he did in this manner.

And he said unto them, But you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables.

That seeing they may see, and not perceive, and hearing they may hear, and not understand lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them. Mark 4:11-12.

And confirmed this fact when Paul said,

(According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear,) unto this day: Rom. 11:8.

They were to remain in this attitude until the fulness of the Gentiles come in. As it is written,

For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits, that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. Rom. 11:25.

And their fulness is not yet in, as the following scripture will show

And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations, and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. Luke 21:24.

Jerusalem is not built up yet, but it is on the move at this time: So when this time is fulfilled, then will start the fourth attitude of the Israelites—That is, it will start when the deliverer comes out of Zion, and turns ungodliness away from Jacob, as it is written.

And so all Israel shall be saved, as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob.

For this is my covenant unto them when I shall take away their sins.

As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes, but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. Rom. 11:28-29.

At this time the Israelites go into their fourth attitude. And ever long the New Heaven and the New Earth will come in view, and righteousness will cover the earth as the waters the sea, and now we see the differences in sleep and in death.

To sleep, is not dead; it is for one part of man to be unconscious while the other part of man is conscious. The Israelites are sleeping as far as the knowledge of Christ is concerned, but are alive unto their God. And bye and bye they will awaken up and see the Lord and Saviour, as He is and has been unto them. Bro. Russell notice these facts.

OUR Homes,

Sons of toil what has become of that home that God blessed? It said that you should inherit? We only need to refer you to the city of New York with her 1,500,000 inhabitants, and only 30,000 of that vast number that own a home or a foot of land, hence, thirty thousand of monopolies owns New York City. And what is true of New York City is true of every city and town in the land and to a great extent the land also. The situation then is surely appalling. It means that the hundreds of thousands have to toil and sweat in all kinds of weather, dens, and poverty, in order that the few thousands may live in idleness and luxury.

Such is the prevailing condition of affairs, surely the time is ripe for a revolution, or a system that will bring us into the bounds of Gods eternal purpose, that every man may sit under his own vine and fig tree. The Progressive party with its principals will do this.

The sons of America, was once the sons of Freedom.

But alas the dark craft of a demons god, has broke the silver cord of liberties day; and en-

twined the chain of merciless power, around the neck of laborers' and caused the want, by the mediums hand of civil taxation.

Taxation has been the medium by which many a hard earned home has been taken away from the owner.

The money god of foreign shores set up her standard, in the way of grain trusts, and says to the farmer of this country, we have imposed a tax on you, so that you will have to sell your wheat and corn, at just what we see fit to give you.

For you have to pay these taxes and we by this, compel you to take a price that will cause you to mortgage your farms, to pay the taxes, your grain will not pay at the price we give you for your grain. And then only a little while and we will sell your farm for the mortgage, and the farm is ours, and you are a pauper and a slave for us. Oh! that every man had a home worth one thousand dollars that could not be taken from them.



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